IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the claims is set forth below. Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   **(Currently Amended)** An electronic marketplace computer system for providing visualization of market offers, the system comprising:

a market server operable to:

receive offer data for a plurality of offers, the received offer data reflecting values specified in the offers for a plurality of offer variables; ~~and~~

access a user request, the user request comprising a plurality of entered values for a plurality of offer variables; and

generate a display comprising:

a user request display comprising one or more patterns representing the user request, the one or more patterns for the user request comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to a predefined encoding scheme, an entered value for the offer variable corresponding to the bar; and

an offers display of the received offer data, the display comprising a plurality of patterns, each pattern representing a particular offer and comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to the ~~a~~ predefined encoding scheme, a value for the offer variable corresponding to the ~~bar.~~ bar, the user request display and the offers display are visibly comparable for determining a substantial match between at least one of the plurality of patterns representing a particular offer and the one or more patterns representing the user request.

2.   **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the predefined encoding scheme encodes a first value of a first offer variable in a first pattern associated with a first offer and encodes a second value of the first offer variable in a second pattern associated with a second offer.

3.   **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the sets of geometric display elements encode associated values according to a predefined color scheme; and

each geometric display element in a set of geometric display elements has a color according to the value being represented and the predefined color scheme for encoding the value in the set of geometric display elements, the color for a particular geometric display element being different than the colors of other geometric display elements in the same set of geometric display elements.

4.   **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 1, wherein a user is a buyer and the offers comprise asks only from sellers on an approved vendor list (AVL).

5.   **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 1, wherein a value encoded in a set of geometric display elements comprises a range of values within a predetermined range of values.

6.   **(Original)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the bars are columns.

7.   **(Canceled)**

8.   **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 7, where the market server is further operable to:

receive a selection of a particular pattern associated with a particular offer;

receive an instruction to generate an order based on the values for the offer associated with the selected pattern;

in response to receiving the instruction, automatically generate an order based on the values for the offer associated with the selected pattern; and

communicate the generated order for matching with the selected offer.

9.   **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 8, wherein the market server is further operable to display the values specified in the user request and the values specified in the offer associated with the selected pattern.

10.   **(Currently Amended)** A method of providing visualization of market offers, comprising:

receiving offer data for a plurality of offers, the received offer data reflecting values specified in the offers for a plurality of offer variables; ~~and~~

accessing a user request, the user request comprising a plurality of entered values for a plurality of offer variables; and

generating a display comprising:

a user request display comprising one or more patterns representing the user request, the one or more patterns for the user request comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to a predefined encoding scheme, an entered value for the offer variable corresponding to the bar; and

an offers display of the received offer data, the display comprising a plurality of patterns, each pattern representing a particular offer and comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to the ~~a~~ predefined encoding scheme, a value for the offer variable corresponding to the ~~bar.~~ bar, the user request display and the offers display are visibly comparable for determining a substantial match between at least one of the plurality of patterns representing a particular offer and the one or more patterns representing the user request.

11.   **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 10, wherein the predefined encoding scheme encodes a first value of a first offer variable in a first pattern associated with a first offer and encodes a second value of the first offer variable in a second pattern associated with a second offer.

12.   **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 10, wherein the sets of geometric display elements encode associated values according to a predefined color scheme; and

each geometric display element in a set of geometric display elements has a color according to the value being represented and the predefined color scheme for encoding the value in the set of geometric display elements, the color for a particular geometric display element being different than the colors of other geometric display elements in the same set of geometric display elements.

13.   **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 10, wherein a user is a buyer and the offers comprise asks only from sellers on an approved vendor list (AVL).

14.   **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 10, wherein a value encoded in a set of geometric display elements comprises a range of values within a predetermined range of values.

15.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 10, wherein the bars are columns.

16.   **(Canceled)**

17.   **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, further comprising:

receiving a selection of a particular pattern associated with a particular offer;

receiving an instruction to generate an order based on the values for the offer associated with the selected pattern;

in response to the instruction, automatically generating an order based on the values for the offer associated with the selected pattern; and

communicating the generated order for matching with the selected offer.

18.   **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 17, further comprising displaying the values specified in the user request and the values specified in the offer associated with the selected pattern.

19.   **(Currently Amended)** Software for providing visualization of market offers, the software being embodied in computer-readable media and when executed operable to:

receive offer data for a plurality of offers, the received offer data reflecting values specified in the offers for a plurality of offer variables; ~~and~~

accessing a user request, the user request comprising a plurality of entered values for a plurality of offer variables; and

generate a display comprising:

a user request display comprising one or more patterns representing the user request, the one or more patterns for the user request comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to a predefined encoding scheme, an entered value for the offer variable corresponding to the bar; and

an offers display of the received offer data, the display comprising a plurality of patterns, each pattern representing a particular offer and comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to the ~~a~~ predefined encoding scheme, a value for the offer variable corresponding to the ~~bar.~~ bar, the user request display and the offers display are visibly comparable for determining a substantial match between at least one of the plurality of patterns representing a particular offer and the one or more patterns representing the user request.

20.   **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 19, wherein the predefined encoding scheme encodes a first value of a first offer variable in a first pattern associated with a first offer and encodes a second value of the first offer variable in a second pattern associated with a second offer.

21.   **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 19, wherein the sets of geometric display elements encode associated values according to a predefined color scheme; and

each geometric display element in a set of geometric display elements has a color according to the value being represented and the predefined color scheme for encoding the value in the set of geometric display elements, the color for a particular geometric display element being different than the colors of other geometric display elements in the same set of geometric display elements.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 19, wherein a user is a buyer and the offers comprise asks only from sellers on an approved vendor list (AVL).

23. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 19, wherein a value encoded into a set of geometric display elements comprises a range of values within a predetermined range of values.

24. **(Original)** The software of Claim 19, wherein the bars are columns.

25. **(Canceled)**

26. **(Original)** The software of Claim 25, further operable to:

receive a selection of a particular pattern associated with a particular offer;

receive an instruction to generate an order based on the values for the offer associated with the selected pattern;

in response to receiving the instruction, automatically generate an order based on the values for the offer associated with the selected pattern; and

communicate the generated order for matching with the selected offer.

27.   **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 26, further operable to display the values specified in the user request and the values specified in the offer associated with the selected pattern.

28.   **(Currently Amended)** A system for providing visualization of market offers, comprising:

means for receiving offer data for a plurality of offers, the offer data reflecting values specified in the offers for a plurality of offer variables; ~~and~~

means for accessing a user request, the user request comprising a plurality of entered values for a plurality of offer variables; and

means for generating a display comprising:

a user request display comprising one or more patterns representing the user request, the one or more patterns for the user request comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to a predefined encoding scheme, an entered value for the offer variable corresponding to the bar; and

an offers display of the offer data, the display comprising a plurality of patterns, each pattern representing a particular offer and comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to the ~~a~~ predefined encoding scheme, a value for the offer variable corresponding to the ~~bar.~~ bar, the user request display and the offers display are visibly comparable for determining a substantial match between at least one of the plurality of patterns representing a particular offer and the one or more patterns representing the user request.

29. **(Previously Presented)** An electronic marketplace computer system for providing visualization of market offers, the system comprising:

a market server operable to:

receive offer data for a plurality of offers, the received offer data reflecting values specified in the offers for a plurality of offer variables; and

access a user request, the user request comprising a plurality of entered values for a plurality of offer variables; and

generate a display of the received offer data, the display comprising a plurality of patterns, each pattern representing a particular offer and comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that collectively encode, according to a predefined encoding scheme, a value for the offer variable corresponding to the bar, the predefined encoding scheme being selected such that a set of geometric display elements encoding a first value of a first offer variable in a first pattern associated with a first offer are readily visually distinguishable from a set of geometric display elements encoding a second value of the first offer variable in a second pattern associated with a second offer if the first value is not substantially similar to the second value; and

generate within the display a pattern representing the user request, the pattern for the user request comprising a plurality of bars, each bar representing a particular offer variable and comprising a set of one or more geometric display elements that by virtue of their appearance collectively encode, according to the predefined encoding scheme, an entered value for the offer variable corresponding to the bar.